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HOG NUMBERS AND PORK PRODUCTION INCREASE IN 1977, ANOTHER GAIN FORECAST FOR 1978

During 1977, hog numbers expanded in all of the seventeen major commercial pork producing countries reviewed in this report, except the United Kingdom. Compared to previous years, the largest increases were reported for Poland (23 percent), the USSR (12 percent), the Netherlands (14 percent), Yugoslavia (15 percent), and Japan (8 percent) as these countries added to their herds in response to their needs and/or improved profit prospects. The U.K. herd was off 5 percent in part because subsidized imports from the EC members countries lowered profits from domestic production.

Forecasts of hog numbers in the 18 countries as of January 1979 differ, but, in general, slightly weaker growth trends are expected in 1978 compared to the 1977 level. Because of unfavorable prices, numbers are expected to fall slightly in Belgium-Luxembourg, France, and Italy compared with slight increases made in 1977. In the United Kingdom, numbers are expected to continue to slide in 1978 despite favorable hog feed price ratios, because of heavy sow slaughter in 1977. In the USSR, expansion is expected to slow from the 1977 levels as 1978 slaughter is forecast to be heavy. The largest gains are forecast to be in Denmark, West Germany, and Poland where numbers should gain around 6 or 7 percent.

U.S. hog numbers were up only 3 percent during 1977. While hog prices were strong throughout the first half of 1978, hog numbers may not increase even as much as in 1977 because of cold weather, disease problems, higher death losses, and a smaller than expected pig crop.

World pork production grew 7 percent in 1977. This growth trend is forecast to slow to approximately 5 percent in 1978. This year's smaller gain results from generally lower growth in production as expansion appears to be slowing in eleven of the countries reviewed including the two largest produc-

ers, the Soviet Union and the United States. The largest production decline, about 5 percent, is forecast to occur in the United Kingdom. Poland is the only country where production is expected to increase over 10 percent this year.

Overall net trade in pork for the countries reviewed did not change greatly in 1977. There were larger net exports by Denmark and the Netherlands and smaller net imports by Spain. No changes in the general trend are foreseen for 1978 trade, aside from a reduction in Canadian imports.

United States

Hog numbers in 1977 rose only 3 percent compared with the 11.5 percent gain of 1976, because of higher death losses resulting from disease and bad weather, and high slaughter rates. For 1978, the gain in hog numbers may drop off to only 2.3 percent over the 1977 level because death loss has increased even more, the breeding herd has grown little, and the December-May litter size was smaller than expected.

Because only a limited supply of hogs was available, slaughter in 1977 was up 4.7 percent compared with a 6 percent increase in 1976. Pork production was up even less, because carcass weights were down slightly. For 1978, despite a favorable hog-corn ratio, increased slaughter pig supplies have not materialized. Pork production this year is expected to be up about 2 percent, partly because of higher carcass weights.

The United States is a net pork importer. During 1976 and 1977, net imports remained stable because slightly smaller exports were matched by declining imports. In 1978 net pork imports could double because U.S. exports are expected to fall about 25 percent and imports should rise.

Last year, sales to Japan were off more than 50 percent, and in 1978 they are continuing to run at that lower rate. Last year U.S. sales to the other major U.S. market, Canada, were high; however, this year they are expected to be down by 50 percent. On the other hand, U.S. pork imports were up 10 percent

in the first half of 1978, because of an 86 percent gain in imports from Canada and a 16 percent rise in imports of canned pork from Eastern Europe. The latter was only partially counterbalanced by a decrease in canned pork imports from the Netherlands.

Canada

Canadian hog numbers are recovering from the 30 percent drop that occurred between 1971 and 1976. Numbers increased 8 percent during 1977, and are expected to continue to rise through 1978. Hog/barley ratios would justify earlier and larger expansion than occurred, but there has been only slight recovery in the Western Provinces. Thus, hog production has shifted and the Eastern Provinces now have two-thirds of the hog population compared with about half in 1971. The average herd size has gone up sharply in the east also.

Hog slaughter increased 5 percent in 1977. In the first 6 months of 1978, it was 8.3 percent above year-ago levels, but a slowing in the second half may cause production for the year to be up about 6 percent. Heavier carcass weights will likely keep pork production above the increase in slaughter.

Canadian pork exports in 1977 were up 20 percent on the strength of a 30 percent increase in shipments to Japan, even though Japan imported about 25 percent less pork in total. It is believed that Canada became the No. 1 supplier to Japan in 1977, when it accounted for 76 percent of Canada's exports, because of long-term contracts between Japanese pork importers and several Canadian Provincial Hog Marketing Boards. In general these now have been terminated. In the first half of 1978, sales to Japan were down 23 percent, but total pork exports were up 2 percent because of a 90 percent increase in fresh pork sales to the United States. For the year, exports are expected to be up about 5,000 tons.

In the first half of this year Canadian pork imports were down 47 percent, and this decline was reflected in U.S. exports. With the devalued Canadian dollar, rising Canadian production, and high U.S. pork prices, imports this year are expected to fall by about 50 percent.

European Community (EC)

EC hog numbers rose about 3 percent in 1977, and a 2 percent increase is expected this year largely because of a 6 percent reduction in the U.K. herd. Slaughter, up by almost 5 percent in 1977, is expected to rise by 2 percent in 1978. Similarly, pork production in 1977 gained by 4 percent, but production in 1978 is expected also to be up 2 percent, paralleling the slaughter rate. EC pork imports from third countries are expected to fall this year; exports should rise slightly.

The EC pork support price is based upon a fixed unit of value called the unit of account (u.a.). The exchange rate between the United States and a Member State's currency is called the green rate. Under ideal conditions, the actual market value of a currency and the green rate should be the same, but this has not happened in the EC. In those EC countries with weak currencies—France, Italy, Ireland, and the United Kingdom—the green rate value is higher than the actual market value, while the opposite is true in EC countries with strong currencies. In order to equalize the differences in these two rates, the EC applies Monetary Compensatory Amounts (MCA's) to trade. The MCA acts as export subsidies in the strong currency countries and export taxes in the weak currency countries. In early 1978, the EC attempted to narrow the differences between the green values and actual market values by a devaluation of the green rates in the weak currency countries. The EC also applied a special green rate for French pork.

The effect of these changes was to raise pork support prices in France, Italy, Ireland, and the United Kingdom by 14, 12, 6, and 8 percent, respectively. The EC also reduced the base intervention price upon which the MCA's are calculated. These changes make France, Italy, and the United Kingdom—which are major pork importers—less attractive markets to the Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, strong-currency pork exporters.

An indication of a basic problem facing the EC pork market is that on June 18, the EC, for the second consecutive year, was forced to implement private storage aid for pork. With production only slightly above last year's level, prices generally fell throughout the year and reached 85 percent of the "base" or target price in mid-June. But, following the storage action, EC hog prices had increased 3 percent as of mid-August. A reduction in the growth of pork consumption, possibly brought on by the high support prices of recent years, could be blamed for the current weakness in market prices.

Within the EC, U.K. hog numbers contracted in 1977 because of unfavorable market prices early in the year. U.K. hog/feed ratios became favorable in the later months of 1977 and have continued in 1978. The earlier, heavy sow slaughter, however, has eliminated chances of expansion in 1978, as total numbers are expected to fall 6 percent to a 15 year low during the year.

The reduction in MCA payments to EC pork exporters could cause a reduction in pork exports to the United Kingdom in late 1979 or even later when the United Kingdom's hog numbers and production return to more normal levels. France has had very little growth in hog numbers partly due to environmental controls and tax policies discouraging large-scale operations. In 1977, there was a small expansion

in hog numbers but in 1978 a slight decline is expected because of high feed prices and MCA-subsidized pork imports.

Similarly, in Italy hog numbers expanded in 1977, but are expected to fall during 1978. The expansion in 1977 resulted from favorable prices that were partially the outgrowth of EC-financed farm programs. This year, depressed hog prices and higher feed prices seem to be stopping the growth in domestic numbers as well as reducing live hog imports.

In West Germany, both domestic production and hog numbers are expected to continue to grow in 1978, but high feed prices appear to be slowing this growth and may also reduce imports of live hogs. Imports of pork should increase slightly.

In Denmark, the largest EC exporter, production and numbers are expected to continue the expansion that began at the end of 1977. Bacon, Denmark's principle pork export within the EC, moves to the United Kingdom and accounts for over half of total pork shipments. About 20 percent of Denmark's exports are to third countries, and with higher prices and reduced MCA subsidies to the United Kingdom, Denmark may need to look for additional third country markets. Japan is one likely possibility now that shelf-stable canned pork products there are free of quota limits.

Hog numbers in the Netherlands rose 14 percent in 1977 because of favorable hog/feed ratios. However, while in the first half of 1978 feed prices declined, hog prices fell even more and only a 2 percent increase in numbers is projected for 1978. The Netherlands, the second largest EC exporter is expected to ship 6 percent more pork in 1978 with most of its trade continuing to go to West Germany, France, and the United Kingdom.

Belgium is the third-largest EC pork exporter. Costs of production are higher and individual herds smaller than in the two major exporters. After expanding about 3 percent per year in 1976 and 1977 there will be a small drop in numbers this year. The 1977 growth was attributed to a strong market, reflecting a 14 percent increase in live hog exports to France, its major market. This year there will be an increase in pork exports, but probably a decline in live hog exports to France because of changes in the MCA subsidy rates to that country.

In Ireland, hog numbers rose slightly during 1977, but are expected to be static in 1978. Pork production in 1978 is expected to be up slightly, adding to both domestic consumption and exports. Ireland's hog numbers are not expected to recover to pre-EC levels because those larger numbers were dependent on a much larger export market since lost to the more heavily subsidized Continental pork exporters. The Irish, with a weaker currency, do not receive as large an MCA subsidy as do the stronger currency exporters.

Japan

Japanese hog numbers expanded 8 percent during 1977 and a 2.5 percent gain is projected for 1978. In 1977, the number slaughtered rose 12.5 percent with pork production up 10 percent. In 1978, these categories are forecast to rise 5 and 6 percent, respectively.

During 1977, Japanese pork prices and demand remained high despite the strong rise in total market supplies. One factor may have been the substitution of pork for fish as the prices for fresh fish rose sharply. (Fish and seafood account for almost half of Japanese meat consumption.) Feed prices in 1978 have dropped 15 percent from year-ago levels, while the floor and ceiling support prices at the wholesale level for pork—at 627 to 766 yen per kg. (skinned carcass basis)—are unchanged from those for 1977/1978. (Wholesale carcass prices in May were about 8 percent below those of a year ago). Thus, farmers are provided profitable production prospects while consumers face relatively stable prices.

With the strong production increase in 1977, pork imports fell about 25 percent. While imports through June were down slightly, for 1978 they are projected to increase about 5 percent over the 1977 level to 160,000 tons. The Japanese did not adjust pork duties under their minimum import price system in 1977 and are not expected to do so in 1978. The U.S. share of the Japanese market is usually smaller when the duty is not waived thus, there is little prospect that U.S. pork sales will improve much this year compared with those of 1977.

Japan has been under heavy pressure to liberalize agricultural imports and, as of April 1, 1978, the Japanese removed several quota restrictions including those on shelf-stable (sterilized) canned pork products. Imports of all quota canned pork were only 6,000 tons in 1977, but, since shelf-stable canned pork can now be imported with only the 25 percent duty, there could be a strong effort to export these items to Japan, especially by the EC.

Sweden

In Sweden there was a slight increase in hog numbers during 1977 and a similar increase is projected for 1978. However, an 11 percent increase in the consumer price level and a decline in employment during 1977 appear to have cut demand for all meats, including pork.

A factor that will keep retail prices rising in 1978 is that on December 16, 1977 Sweden revised its agricultural support program to eliminate direct farm payments to producers. This will transfer the cost of the former program from the Treasury directly to the consumers. Higher prices and increased levies on

imports may increase pork prices by at least 11 cents per kilogram.

The new program seems to have caused a 2-3 percent reduction in pork consumption in the first quarter of 1978, a mild reaction compared with the 8-10 percent reduction in beef consumption. With pork production rising, pork imports are expected to continue to fall while exports may increase.

Spain

Spanish hog numbers rose about 3 percent during 1977, but because of heavy slaughter and a slowdown in the growth of the breeding herd, only a 1 percent increase is foreseen in 1978. Pork production, which was up 13 percent in 1977, is estimated to be up 8 percent this year. The Spanish Government is currently considering a 5-year plan to expand pork production by 150,000 tons as part of a 300,000-ton increase in red meat production. With the support level for beef 85 percent higher than that for pork, pork consumption has been encouraged and during the 1975-1977 period increased 15 percent while beef consumption remain unchanged.

On March 22, the Government announced new support prices for 1978/1979. Carcass pork support levels were upped 13.6 percent (to 100 pesetas per kilogram) while barley and corn support levels were raised 19 and 13 percent respectively. These, plus special subsidies and grants to farmers, make this the most expensive support program to date and may be viewed as part of the Spanish preparation for EC membership. The 100-pesetas-per-kg (\$1.25 per kg) support level for hogs is about 80 percent of the EC support level.

As a result of high 1977 production, pork imports in 1977 dropped from more than 50,000 tons to less than 7,000. For 1978 a fall to about 3,000 tons is projected.

Yugoslavia

Hog numbers in Yugoslavia, recovering from the sharp drop in 1975, increased 15 percent during 1977 and reached a new record of 8.4 million head. In 1978 an improved feed situation and strong local demand for pork are expected to lead to further expansion in numbers. Pork production also rose 15 percent in 1977 and a 9 percent increase is foreseen in 1978. Also, because Yugoslav pork production is not reported on the same basis as in the United States,¹ the actual level of pork production may be slightly higher than is currently reported.

¹For Yugoslavia and the USSR the live-weight to carcass-weight conversion percentage is smaller than that used for the United States, which has recently been increased.

Average carcass weights in Yugoslavia appear low compared to other countries because about one-third of the hogs are slaughtered at around 12 kilograms as suckling pigs. This slaughter has varied from 2 million to more than 4 million head per year and an over-4-million figure is projected for 1978.

In 1977, local demand for pork was so strong that the "agreed" retail price levels—prices set by individual Yugoslav Republics in order to control retail price levels—were increased. In April 1978 a support system was introduced that included for the first time a "protective price." This guarantees a minimum price to the farmer and liberalized the "agreed" prices. These measures should encourage expanded production.

Pork exports were up 6 percent in 1977, despite strong local demand, and 1978 exports are expected to rise by 30 percent. The United States has become an important market for Yugoslavia's canned pork, accounting for about half of Yugoslav exports of pork in 1976 and almost 70 percent in 1977.

Hungary

January 1978 hog numbers in Hungary, at 7.9 million head, were reported unchanged from year-ago levels. Despite good grain crops, there was a downturn in sow numbers, which is expected to prohibit any herd expansion in 1978 and may result in reduced pork production this year. One reason for the slowdown may be the need for imported protein, aggravated by the low feed conversion to liveweight ratio, which is about 4.5 to 1.

Even though Hungary faces serious problems in the pork sector, there have been some important accomplishments in the past 6 years. These are obscured somewhat because certain edible cuts are not included in production data making Hungarian pork production appear less efficient than other countries. However, note should be made that about half of Hungarian hogs are produced by private farms, and the size of the private holdings seems to be expanding. Also carcass weights have declined from 128 kg in 1971 to about 112 kg currently, as the traditional lard-type hogs are being replaced by grain-fed, meat-type hogs.

Hungary has increased its sales of canned pork to the United States over the past 2 years, and a large share of the U.S. market is anticipated in the future. This plus the continued exports of pork to the USSR expected in 1978, may result in a cut in domestic consumption.

U.S.S.R.

USSR hog numbers were up nearly 12 percent in January 1978 compared with those of the previous

year, but remained 3 percent below the record January 1975 level. A shortfall in the 1977/1978 grain crop is expected to slow the rate of expansion in 1978 but the near-record grain crop in 1978/1979 should spur yearend herd growth.

Pork production in 1977 is estimated to have risen about 14 percent and a 9 percent increase in 1978 is forecast, provided feed and protein meal supplies are available. This will bring pork production back to near the 1975 record. Pork production in the USSR is not reported on the same basis as that in the United States,¹ thus may be slightly larger than indicated.

Since 1974, the USSR has become a major meat importer. However, with the recovery in Soviet production and with rising international prices for meat, it is expected that imports in 1978 will be much smaller. As of mid-1978, no large import contracts for meat from non-Socialist countries have been signed.

Poland

Hog numbers at the start of 1977 were at a 5-year low, but an apparently good pig crop and low slaughter levels allowed numbers to increase 23 percent by the end of the year. Despite poor grain and potato crops, down 10 and 16 percent respectively, numbers are expected to gain 6 percent in 1978. In 1977, the number slaughtered decreased 7 percent, but pork production remained at the depressed 1976 level as the average carcass weight increased. Pork imports were unchanged as the shortage in domestic production was partially compensated for by a 50,000-ton gain in beef imports and a 22,000-ton rise in lard imports. An important source of hard currency, pork exports declined only slightly.

Pork production in 1978 is expected to expand 20 percent because of increased numbers with resultant gains in domestic consumption and a 6 percent rise in pork exports.

HOG NUMBERS 1976-1979 BREEDING HERD, AND PIG CROPS 1976-1978 IN SPECIFIED COUNTRIES
(IN THOUSANDS OF HEAD)

| REGIONS AND COUNTRY | HOG NUMBERS 1/ | | | BREEDING HERD 1/ 2/ | | | ANNUAL PIG CROP 3/ | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 4/ | 1979 5/ | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 4/ | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 5/ |
| CANADA 6/ | 5,409 | 6,156 | 6,648 | 6,833 | 610 | 609 | 672 | 10,592 | 10,741 | 10,950 |
| UNITED STATES | 49,267 | 54,934 | 56,584 | 57,900 | 7,574 | 8,011 | 8,612 | 84,395 | 86,191 | 87,321 |
| EC: | | | | | | | | | | |
| BELGIUM/LUXEMBOURG | 4,765 | 4,902 | 5,023 | 5,000 | 537 | 543 | 556 | 9,065 | 9,274 | 9,177 |
| DENMARK | 7,585 | 7,897 | 8,234 | 8,900 | 800 | 821 | 858 | 14,400 | 14,778 | 15,444 |
| FRANCE 7/ | 11,451 | 11,509 | 11,550 | 11,500 | 1,336 | 1,304 | 1,311 | 17,753 | 18,260 | 18,120 |
| WEST GERMANY 7/ | 19,805 | 20,589 | 21,386 | 22,786 | 2,210 | 2,318 | 2,477 | 32,895 | 34,337 | 36,500 |
| IRELAND | 880 | 986 | 998 | 998 | 101 | 110 | 109 | 2,250 | 2,218 | 2,800 |
| ITALY 7/ | 8,888 | 9,097 | 9,420 | 9,250 | 866 | 896 | 893 | 10,100 | 11,200 | 11,050 |
| NETHERLANDS | 7,016 | 7,314 | 8,350 | 8,500 | 925 | 972 | 1,052 | 14,650 | 17,047 | 17,075 |
| UNITED KINGDOM | 7,668 | 8,151 | 7,723 | 7,230 | 844 | 888 | 820 | 13,726 | 14,206 | 13,350 |
| EC TOTAL | 68,147 | 70,445 | 72,604 | 74,164 | 7,619 | 7,852 | 8,076 | 114,839 | 121,318 | 124,316 |
| SPAIN | 8,350 | 8,927 | 9,210 | 9,275 | 1,069 | 1,142 | 1,212 | 9,090 | 10,098 | 10,665 |
| SWEDEN | 2,467 | 2,643 | 2,680 | 2,720 | 280 | 285 | 290 | 5,200 | 5,260 | 5,340 |
| HUNGARY | 6,953 | 7,854 | 7,850 | 7,850 | 597 | 675 | 663 | 10,008 | 10,471 | 10,472 |
| POLAND | 21,643 | 16,764 | 20,591 | 21,893 | 1,760 | 1,781 | 2,107 | 15,488 | 24,112 | 25,195 |
| YUGOSLAVIA | 6,536 | 7,326 | 8,452 | 8,850 | 1,196 | 1,261 | 1,408 | 13,653 | 13,950 | 14,600 |
| SOVIET UNION | 57,900 | 63,000 | 70,300 | 70,600 | 3,713 | 4,020 | 4,220 | 66,632 | 76,380 | 80,180 |
| JAPAN | 7,459 | 8,132 | 8,780 | 9,000 | 962 | 1,028 | 1,093 | 16,996 | 18,500 | 19,200 |
| TOTAL SPECIFIED COUNTRIES | 234,131 | 246,181 | 263,718 | 269,029 | 25,380 | 26,664 | 28,353 | 346,888 | 377,021 | 388,239 |

1/ APPROXIMATES 1ST OF YEAR CENSUS. 2/ DEFINITION OF BREEDING HERD VARIES BY COUNTRY. 3/ IN SOME COUNTRIES THE PIG CROP IS CALCULATED FROM CHANGES IN HOG NUMBERS, SLAUGHTER, AND NET TRADE. 4/ PRELIMINARY. 5/ FORECAST. 6/ 1977 REVISED, 1976 AS YET UNREVISED. 7/ MAJOR LIVE HOG IMPORTER, SLAUGHTER USUALLY EXCEEDS PIG CROP.

SOURCE: ATTACHE REPORTS, USDA, AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

SEPTEMBER 1978

COMMODITY PROGRAMS, FAS, USDA

HOG SLAUGHTER, PORK PRODUCTION, AND NET PORK IMPORTS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1976-1978

| REGIONS AND COUNTRY | SLAUGHTER 1/ | | | PRODUCTION 2/ | | | NET IMPORTS 2/ | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---------|---------|---------------|---------|---------|----------------|------|---------|
| | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 3/ | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 3/ | 1976 | 1977 | 1978 3/ |
| | Head | Head | Head | MT | MT | MT | MT | MT | MT |
| CANADA..... | 8,617 | 9,077 | 9,550 | 512 | 539 | 570 | 50 | 45 | -5 |
| UNITED STATES..... | 74,950 | 78,442 | 79,300 | 4/5,753 | 4/6,009 | 4/6,125 | 69 | 66 | 120 |
| EC: | | | | | | | | | |
| BELGIUM/LUXEMBOURG..... | 7,646 | 7,775 | 7,900 | 612 | 625 | 650 | -198 | -200 | -220 |
| DENMARK..... | 10,319 | 10,782 | 11,000 | 716 | 744 | 760 | -501 | -540 | -550 |
| FRANCE 5/..... | 18,671 | 19,280 | 19,400 | 1,499 | 1,535 | 1,547 | 187 | 200 | 216 |
| WEST GERMANY 5/..... | 32,901 | 34,450 | 36,100 | 2,346 | 2,399 | 2,495 | 301 | 313 | 315 |
| IRELAND..... | 1,809 | 1,952 | 2,000 | 121 | 131 | 134 | -31 | -40 | -41 |
| ITALY 5/..... | 8,388 | 9,152 | 9,300 | 782 | 850 | 866 | 227 | 218 | 220 |
| NETHERLANDS..... | 10,987 | 11,439 | 12,000 | 889 | 925 | 971 | -446 | -465 | -495 |
| UNITED KINGDOM..... | 13,498 | 14,551 | 13,785 | 889 | 957 | 910 | 464 | 494 | 522 |
| EC TOTAL..... | 104,219 | 109,381 | 111,485 | 7,854 | 8,166 | 8,333 | | | |
| SPAIN..... | 8,513 | 9,815 | 10,600 | 649 | 734 | 795 | 52 | 6 | -2 |
| SWEDEN..... | 3,900 | 4,020 | 4,080 | 290 | 302 | 308 | -19 | -22 | -28 |
| HUNGARY..... | 8,187 | 9,652 | 9,652 | 415 | 461 | 461 | -4 | -5 | -50 |
| POLAND..... | 17,887 | 16,669 | 20,239 | 1,543 | 1,540 | 1,841 | -60 | -60 | -65 |
| YUGOSLAVIA..... | 11,322 | 11,474 | 12,500 | 472 | 510 | 550 | -21 | -23 | -40 |
| SOVIET UNION..... | 57,653 | 63,526 | 73,000 | 4,500 | 5,150 | 5,625 | 60 | 60 | 65 |
| JAPAN..... | 14,277 | 16,075 | 16,900 | 1,056 | 1,165 | 1,235 | 203 | 152 | 160 |
| TOTAL SELECTED COUNTRIES..... | 309,525 | 328,131 | 347,306 | 23,044 | 24,576 | 25,843 | | | |

1/ SLAUGHTER DATA MAY INCLUDE LIVE HOG EXPORTS FOR SOME COUNTRIES. 2/ CARCASS WEIGHT BASIS. 3/ FORECAST.

4/ PRODUCTION DATA INCLUDE CARCASS FAT, AND ESTIMATES FOR FARM PRODUCTION. 5/ MAJOR LIVE HOG IMPORTER, SLAUGHTER USUALLY EXCEEDS PIG CROP.

SOURCE: ATTACHE REPORTS, USDA AND FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

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